

CHAPTER 7

Procedures When RCWM is Encountered

7-1. Introduction.

a. This chapter discusses MEC support procedures to be followed in the event that RCWM or munitions with unknown fillers are encountered on a project site. Detailed procedures for planning and executing RCWM response actions are located in EP 75-1-3.

b. An item configured as a military munition containing a chemical substance that is intended to kill, seriously injure, or incapacitate a person through its physiological effects is considered Chemical Warfare Materiel (CWM). CWM also includes V- and G- series nerve agent, H- series blister agent, and lewisite in other-than-munition configurations. Due to their hazards, prevalence, and military-unique application, chemical agent identification sets are also considered to be CWM. CWM does not include riot control agents, chemical herbicides, smoke and flame producing items, or soil, water, debris, or other media contaminated with chemical agent. Non-stockpile CWM that was previously discarded, buried, or fired and discovered either unexpectedly or during planned environmental restoration operations is referred to as RCWM.

c. Soil, water, debris, and other media contaminated with chemical agent are not considered to be RCWM. The procedures described in ER 1110-1-8153 will be followed when only agent-contaminated media are suspected.

7-2. Response Procedures.

a. Any time that RCWM or munitions with unknown fillers are encountered during MEC support, all work will immediately cease. Project personnel will withdraw along cleared paths upwind from the discovery. A team consisting of a minimum of two personnel will secure the area to prevent unauthorized access. Personnel will position themselves as far upwind as possible while still maintaining the security of the area.

b. Notification.

(1) When RCWM or munitions with unknown fillers are identified on FUDS project sites, the UXO team will notify the local POC designated in the Work Plan. The local POC will facilitate the EOD unit's response and two personnel will secure the site until the EOD

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unit's arrival. If the local POC designated in the Work Plan is not the local law enforcement agency, the local POC will inform the local law enforcement agency of the discovery. The EOD unit will notify the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit (TEU) and secure the area until TEU's arrival. After notifying the local law enforcement agencies, the local POC will notify the USAESCH Chemical Warfare Design Center to inform them of the actions taken.

(2) On active installations, the UXO team will normally notify the Range Control Officer, the Facility Engineer, Post Headquarters, or the POC designated in the Work Plan.

c. Reporting. Chemical event reports must be submitted in accordance with AR 50-6. Specific reporting requirements are identified in EP 75-1-3.